ASSEMBLY BILL   No. 2565

Introduced by Assembly Member Evans

February 23, 2006

An act relating to special education, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2565, as introduced, Evans. Special education: agreement or contract to conduct mediation conferences and due process hearings: funding.

Existing law requires school districts, county offices of education, and special education local plan areas to comply with state laws that conform to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, in order that the state may qualify for federal funds available for the education of individuals with exceptional needs.

Existing law provides procedural safeguards, including mediation and due process hearings, for the resolution of complaints regarding alleged violations of the law relative to special education. Existing law requires the State Department of Education to enter into an interagency agreement with another state agency or contract with a nonprofit organization or entity to conduct mediation conferences and due process hearings, and requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to adopt regulations that establish standards for specified components of this interagency agreement or contract.

This bill would appropriate $3,500,000 from the General Fund to the State Department of Education for the 2005-06 fiscal year to provide funding for an agreement or contract to conduct special education mediation conferences and due process hearings.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1   SECTION 1. The sum of three million five hundred thousand
2 dollars ($3,500,000) is hereby appropriated from the General
3 Fund to the State Department of Education for the 2005-06 fiscal
4 year to provide funding for an agreement or contract to conduct
5 special education mediation conferences and due process
6 hearings pursuant to Section 56504.5 of the Education Code.

O